

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for verifying the authenticity of a document, wherein said document comprises a carrier (1) with a plurality of perforations (~~5a, 5b~~), wherein at least part of the perforations have an elongate cross section with a minimum and a maximum diameter (~~d1, d1', d2, d2'~~), characterized by comprising the steps of

viewing the document from at least one viewing direction (~~7'~~) that is non-perpendicular to a surface (~~1a~~) of the carrier (1) and

deriving the authenticity from an optical transmission of said perforations (~~5a, 5b~~).

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of comparing the optical transmission of said perforations (~~5a, 5b~~) with an expected optical transmission.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the document is viewed from at least one direction that is perpendicular to a direction parallel to the maximum diameter (~~d2, d2'~~) of at least some of the perforations (5a, 5b).

4. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the document is viewed from at least one direction that is perpendicular to a direction parallel to the minimum diameter (~~d1, d1'~~) of at least some of the perforations (~~5a, 5b~~).

5. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein said perforations (~~5a, 5b~~) extend through said carrier (1) in a direction perpendicular to said surface.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the minimum diameter (~~d1, d1'~~) is substantially equal to or smaller than a thickness (~~D~~) of the carrier (~~t~~).

7. (Currently Amended) A security document comprising
a carrier (~~t~~) and ,
a security feature with a plurality of perforations (~~5a, 5b~~) in said carrier, ~~in particular for carrying out the method of any of the preceding claims~~, wherein at least part of the perforations (~~5a, 5b~~) have an elongate cross section with a minimum and a maximum diameter (~~d1, d1', d2, d2'~~), characterized in that wherein the document comprises at least two perforations (~~5a, 5b~~) with different cross sections.

8. (Currently Amended) The security document of claim 7, wherein said perforations (~~5a, 5b~~) have cross sections with equal area but different shape.

9. (Currently Amended) The security document of ~~any of the claims 7 or 8~~ claim 7, wherein said plurality of perforations comprises a first type (~~5a~~) and a second type (~~5b~~) of perforations, wherein the minimum diameter (~~d1~~) of the first type of perforations is parallel to the maximum diameter (~~d2'~~) of the second type of perforations.

10. (Currently Amended) The security document of ~~any of the claims 7 to 9~~ claim 7, wherein said plurality of perforations (~~5a, 5b~~) have equal area of cross section and therefore uniform transmission when being viewed from a viewing direction perpendicular a surface of said carrier (~~t~~).

11. (Currently Amended) The security document of ~~any of the claims 7 to 10~~ claim 7,

wherein said perforations (~~5a, 5b~~) form a human recognizable transmission pattern when viewed under an angle that is non-perpendicular to a surface of the carrier (~~1~~).

12. (Currently Amended) The security document of ~~any of the claims 7 to 11~~ claim 7, wherein said perforations (~~5a, 5b~~) extend through said document in a direction perpendicular to a surface (~~1a~~) of the carrier (~~1~~).

13. (Currently Amended) The security document of claim 12, wherein each perforation (~~5a, 5b~~) has substantially uniform cross section through said document.

14. (Currently Amended) The security document of ~~any of the claims 7 to 13~~ claim 7, wherein the carrier (~~1~~) is of flexible plastic or paper, ~~and in particular wherein the security document is a banknote or part of a passport.~~

15. (Currently Amended) The security document of ~~any of the claims 7 to 14~~ claim 7, wherein some of said perforations (~~5a, 5b~~) have circular cross section ~~and/or are arranged in a two-dimensional array.~~

16. (Currently Amended) The security document of ~~any of the claims 7 to 15~~ claim 7, wherein the minimum diameter (~~d1, d1'~~) is substantially equal to or smaller than a thickness (~~D~~) of the carrier (~~1~~).

17. (Currently Amended) The security document pattern of ~~any of the claims 7 to 16~~ claim 7, wherein the minimum diameters (~~d1, d1'~~) of all perforations are equal, and in particular wherein all minimum diameters (~~d1, d1'~~) of all perforations are parallel to each other.

18. (Currently Amended) The security document pattern of ~~any of the claims 7 to 17~~
claim 7, wherein the maximum diameter (~~d2, d2'~~) is at least 1.5 times larger than the
minimum diameter (~~d1, d1'~~).

19. (New) The security document of claim 7, wherein the security document is a
banknote or part of a passport.

20. (New) The security document of claim 7, wherein at least some of said perforations
are arranged in a two-dimensional array.

21. (New) A security document comprising
a carrier,
a first type of perforations in said carrier having a first cross section, and
a second type of perforations in said carrier having a second cross section,
wherein said first cross section is different from said second cross section but
said first cross section has equal area as said second cross section, and wherein at least said
first type of perforations are elongate.